

Christian County Commission

October Term

100 West Church St, Room 100 Ozark, MO 65721

http://ChristianCountyMO.iqm2.com

~ Minutes ~

Thursday, January 5, 2017 8:50 AM The Christian County Courthouse

I. <u>Convene</u>

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 AM by Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter

1. Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Ray Weter	Presiding Commissioner	Present	8:50 AM
Ralph Phillips	Eastern Commissioner	Present	8:50 AM
Hosea Bilyeu	Western Commissioner	Present	8:50 AM
Krista Cronin	Deputy Clerk	Present	8:50 AM
Malinda Young	Secretary	Present	8:50 AM

II. Agenda

Motion/Vote - 8:50 AM Christian County Commission

Discussion - Approve Agenda

Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter noted the presence of a quorum, and then entertained a motion to approve the agenda for today, January 5, 2017, as published.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner

SECONDER: Hosea Bilyeu, Western Commissioner

AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 8:55 AM Kay Brown-Christian County Clerk

Minutes & Financials Approval - Approve Minutes and Financials There are no financials or minutes to approve. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter moved to strike this item from the agenda.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Ray Weter, Presiding Commissioner

SECONDER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner

AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 9:03 AM Christian County Commission

Recognition - Proclamation Signing-Cave Hollow Road Attendees: Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner

Late Attendee: Miranda Beadles - Christian County Highway Engineer

The Commissioners met to sign a document proclaiming Cave Hollow Road is the honorary Silver Star Memorial Lane. The Silver Star Families of America was formed to help the people of the United States remember the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces by designing and manufacturing Silver Star Service Banners and Silver Star Flags for that purpose. The national headquarters of the Silver Star Families of America is located in Christian County on the dead end road of Cave Hollow. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter said that he is unaware of any downside to signing this proclamation, and entertained a motion to sign the proclamation. The Commissioners signed the document.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner
SECONDER: Hosea Bilyeu, Western Commissioner
AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 9:30 AM Danny Gray-Christian County Assessor

Budget Discussion and Decisions - Budget Discussion

Attendees: Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner, Danny Gray - Assessor

Presenter Danny Gray, Christian County Assessor, met with the Commissioners to discuss his proposed budget for 2017. Mr. Gray said that PC Net advised him that he may need a new server, and it will cost roughly \$15,000. He anticipates an increase on postage because his department will mail out approximately 8000 impact notices due to the reassessment this year. Mr. Gray noted that his department has a sizeable reserve, and would like to give all of his employees (with the exception of new) a 3% salary increase across the board. Mr. Gray asked the Commissioners if they could give him an indication of what the budget will look like for 2017. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter said that the Commissioners wanted to give all of the elected officials and department heads an opportunity to inform them of what they think their budgetary needs are for 2017. Western Commissioner Hosea Bilyeu asked Mr. Gray why he increased his telephone budget for 2017. Mr. Gray answered that he is expecting the volume of phone calls to increase because of the impact notices they will send out this year. There was discussion about the Information Technology costs and how they increase every year, as well as the problem with having new vendor staff come in to fix equipment that are unfamiliar with the systems. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter mentioned that the County is considering retaining their own I.T. staff in a few years.

Motion/Vote - 10:03 AM Miranda Beadles-Highway Engineer

Budget Discussion and Decisions - Budget Discussion

Attendees: Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner, Miranda Beadles - Christian

County Highway Engineer

Late Attendee: Kelly Hall - Christian County Recorder

Presenter Miranda Beadles, Christian County Highway Engineer, met with the Commissioners to discuss her proposed budget for 2017. Presiding Commissioner Ray

Weter asked Ms. Beadles if the Road Grader has been payed off completely, and she answered yes. Ms. Beadles noted that the salt barns haven't been repaired yet, but they are carrying forward \$30,000 to make the repairs. She said that the roads in Common One are really tough, which means equipment used in that area tends to need to be replaced faster. Ms. Beadles noted that they're planning on doing a lot of work on Parched Corn Road this year, including prepping and widening. She noted that the majority of our bridges were built between 1904 and 1912, and we've never had a savings account for these bridges that will eventually fail. She said they've been setting aside funds for the bridges so that they're ready when MODot inspects them and says they need to be replaced. Ms. Beadles talked about her proposed salary increases. She asked for a 6.5% average in salary increases, which is 50% of the prevailing wage. She said that the wage increases she's asked for are going to vary because she's trying to make the wages fair.

Motion/Vote - 10:57 AM Kelly Hall-Christian County Recorder of Deeds

Budget Discussion and Decisions - Budget Discussion

Attendees: Kelly Hall - Christian County Recorder of Deeds, Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner

Presenter Kelly Hall, Christian County Recorder, met with the Commissioners to discuss her proposed budget for 2017. Ms. Hall asked for a 3% increase on salaries for her office. She noted that archiving is increasing by \$8,000.00, however, she doesn't anticipate meeting that amount; she doesn't like to amend budgets at the end of the year. She's been advised that her workstations are several years past warranty, therefore on her Technology line item she has increased the amount in anticipation of replacing those units.

Motion/Vote - 11:14 AM Kay Brown-Christian County Clerk

Budget Discussion and Decisions - Budget Discussion

Attendees: Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner, Kay Brown - Christian County Clerk

Presenter Kay Brown, Christian County Clerk, met with the Commissioners to discuss her proposed budget for 2017. She asked for a 3% wage increase for some of her staff, and noted that she will not require part-time assistance for the next two elections being held in April and August. Ms. Brown said that the canvassing process will start in October, as it needs to be done every two years. She said that her department receives monies from Notary fees, Auctioneer Licenses, and A.T.V. fees collected, and will prepare a statement of the revenues received for the Commissioners. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter entertained a motion to enter into recess.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Hosea Bilyeu, Western Commissioner

SECONDER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner

AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 1:45 PM

Reconvene

Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter entertained a motion to reconvene and enter into regular session.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Hosea Bilyeu, Western Commissioner

SECONDER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner

AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 1:46 PM Christian County Commission

Agreement - MU Extension Office Lease Agreement

The Commissioners met to discuss the amended MU Extension office lease agreement. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter said that County Counselor John Housley, Auditor Lacey Hart, and the Landlord Mr. Frank Lorenz have reviewed and signed the agreement. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter entertained a motion to approve the amended lease agreement for the premises commonly known as 105 N 2nd St on the West side of the Ozark Square in Ozark, Missouri.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]

MOVER: Hosea Bilyeu, Western Commissioner

SECONDER: Ralph Phillips, Eastern Commissioner

AYES: Ray Weter, Ralph Phillips, Hosea Bilyeu

Motion/Vote - 2:00 PM Brad Cole-Christian County Sheriff

Budget Discussion and Decisions - Budget Discussion

Attendees: Sheriff Brad Cole, Julia Maples - Executive Assistant, Amelia Wigton - Christian County Headliner

Presenter Brad Cole, Christian County Sheriff, met with the Commissioners to discuss his proposed budget for 2017. Western Commissioner Hosea Bilyeu asked Sheriff Cole why he is requesting \$500,000.00 from the General Revenue Fund. Sheriff Cole answered that because of the expansion on the courts he has to hire more employees, which means an increase in salary, equipment, and benefits. Sheriff Cole asked for a 3% salary increase for his employees. Ms. Maples noted the difference in the salary, retirement, workman's compensation, etc. Line items are due to the Sheriff's department not running on full staff in 2016, and the proposed budget for 2017 reflects a budget based on running a full staff, including the new positions. Sheriff Cole said it costs roughly \$14,000.00 to provide field training for a new deputy, and Christian County's rate of pay is roughly \$3.05 less than that of Ozark and Nixa's salaries for deputies. Sheriff Cole said

that he's losing good employees, as well as the \$14,000.00 of initial training costs. Eastern Commissioner Ralph Phillips talked about the cost of turnover and the benefits of employee retention.

Sheriff Cole noted that the MULES line item has been removed and is reflected in a different line item. It's a recurring, contractual fee and the Sheriff's department has requested that the Auditor place those in a different line item where they can be tracked. Sheriff Cole said that the Sheriff's department would like to track the recurring contractual expenses the same way other departments are. Eastern Commissioner Ralph Phillips agreed that it would be a good idea, and that it will create consistency throughout the County. Western Commissioner Hosea Bilyeu said that he thinks the Assessor is using the line item verbiage "Contracts" instead of "Recurring Contractual Expenses". Sheriff Cole noted that he anticipates replacing aging laptops in the deputy patrol cars. Some of the laptops failed last year, and PC Net is advising them that due to their age they will need to be replaced as soon as possible. The model on the laptops have been discontinued, which means for each laptop replaced a new docking station (to charge and connect to the server) will have to be purchased as well. He noted that PC Net recommends they purchase a new server, as their current one is aged and at the limits of what it can do. PC Net would like to see their department have another one and utilize the current server as a backup to avoid being out of commission for days to weeks at a time if their server goes down.

Sheriff Cole asked the Commissioners to take note of the Civil Process expenditures and revenues, and said all the monies collected over \$50,000.00 are to go into an account in General Revenue for the Sheriff's office - to be utilized for equipment and things of that nature. \$21,000.00 was transferred into that account in 2016 over the \$50,000.00 collected. Sheriff Cole said Ms. Maples went back and investigated, and from everything they can find the monies that went into General Revenue were not expended the way they were intended by State Statute. By last count there should be about \$900,000.00 in that account. Sheriff Cole said the account number associated with Civil Process is 101-440-137, and asked the Commissioners to research and investigate this.

Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter asked about the Law Enforcement Training fund, and said that Auditor Lacey Hart disagrees with counting the \$13,845.03 as revenue. Ms. Maples said that there's no such thing as a budget amendment any more in this county, and they want to be able to spend those monies if they need them. Western Commissioner Hosea Bilyeu noted that there's a healthy increase in the mileage and training line items. Sheriff Cole said that normally in County government if a budget amendment needed to be done after the statutory time they would submit it, but it seems the Auditor is not going to do those amendments and they'd like that cushion because they won't have an opportunity to amend the budget if they need to. Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter said that he can't tell the Sheriff what to expect next because he doesn't know.

III. Adjournment

The meeting was closed at 3:14 PM

3:14 PM

Statement

Attendees: Sheriff Brad Cole, Julia Maples - Executive Assistant, Amelia Wigton -

Christian County Headliner

Presiding Commissioner Ray Weter said seeing no further business we are adjourned.

Presiding Commissioner, Ray Weter

Hosea Bilyeu

Western Commissioner, Hosea Bilyeu

Ralph Phillips

Eastern Commissioner, Ralph Phillips